





# The Confederate.

D. K. McRAE, A. M. GORMAN,  
EDITORS.

All letters on business of the Office, to be  
directed to A. M. GORMAN & CO.

FRIDAY, April 8, 1864.

Office of THE CONFEDERATE,  
on Fayetteville street, second door  
South of Pomero's Bookstore. Sign  
of the CONFEDERATE FLAG.

This being the day set apart by Congress  
and the President, as a day of National  
"Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer," all busi-  
ness will be suspended in this office during  
the day. Consequently there will be no issue  
of the Daily Confederate to-morrow, or Tri-  
weekly of to-day.

## "No Excuse for Starving."

This is the title of a very sensible article  
which we have copied from the *Western Demo-  
crat*. The Editor promises to investigate further  
the amount of produce raised in his district,  
and to pursue the inquiry—what has become of  
it? Happily, the title law, which the *Progress*  
of this city in its folly abuses, furnishes the  
means of ascertaining the truth on the all-im-  
portant question, as to how the people are to  
be fed?

We propose to contribute as far as we can,  
to the solution of the question:

The third tithing district embraces the coun-  
ties of Carteret, Craven, Onslow, Duplin,  
Sampson, Wayne, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir and  
Greene. According to the census of 1850, the  
population of these counties numbered in the  
aggregate one hundred thousand. Allowing for  
the addition by reason of the increase of popu-  
lation within the last decade, and subtracting  
the losses by war, by the running off, of slaves,  
and by the occupation of the enemy, and we will  
still estimate the figures at seventy-five thou-  
sand.

We have lately conversed with a friend who  
has access to the statistics furnished to the  
Department from that district; and we learn  
that there has been received in tithes of food  
and forage within that district, to the value of  
five millions of dollars, of which three millions  
may be estimated as for articles of food, valued  
at fair prices in times of peace. We further  
learn that the crop of potatoes alone pays all the  
expenses of gathering the tithes, and leaves the  
remainder net profit for the benefit of the  
army. This table shows then, that within the  
area of ten counties, and for a population of not  
more than eighty thousand or seventy-five thou-  
sand, there are thirty millions of dollars worth of  
food, or four hundred dollars worth of food to  
each mouth—men, women and children—to  
which is to be added the original allowance  
of fifty bushels of sweet and fifty of Irish  
potatoes, one hundred bushels of corn or fifty  
of wheat, twenty of peas, &c., to be reserved by  
each farmer; and to this is again to be added  
the numerous articles of household supply, of  
poultry, game, fish, eggs, butter, lard, vegeta-  
bles, &c., not tithed at all.

Why, with this state of things, should there  
be any scarcity of food to any one in the third  
district, much less any danger of starvation?  
These figures cannot be over the mark, and  
they are under it, to the extent that any unfair  
practice withholds the tenth of any article  
due to the government.

We will be glad if Tithe Quartermasters  
will inform us, for the public benefit, of the  
receipts in their various districts, of different  
articles, that we may work out exactly how  
much of food there is in the land; and if  
necessary, the names of those who have it;  
for the tithe law will tell us this. If it does  
turn out that there is no real scarcity, then no  
excuse will remain for the dishonest extor-  
tion which reduces the poor to the necessity  
of begging.

Then it will be incumbent on those having  
authority to impress, to protect the commu-  
nity against extortionate prices. To-day we  
saw sweet potatoes at forty dollars a bushel!  
Such demands ought not to be tolerated.

We shall not enter at present on the Title  
Law. The more that is felt of it in the army,  
the more beneficial it appears. This country  
would be in a most lamentable and unhappy  
condition, if the suggestions of the *Progress*  
were received and acted on; for instead of  
studying and ascertaining the operation of this  
law, the *Progress* fires away its blunders at  
the whole thing. Happily, the cartridges  
are blank.

## General Orders.

We are in receipt of a beautiful copy of a  
work entitled "General Orders from the Ad-  
jutant and Inspector General's Office, Con-  
federate States Army, from January 1862, to  
December 1863." It is a large book of 276  
pages, and must be invaluable to all officers  
connected with the army. Evans & Cogswell,  
Columbia, S. C. Price not stated.

## Bobbing Around.

When Mr. Leach, late Lt. Col. of Kirkland's  
regiment, dodged the eyes and noses night on to  
five hundred times in one session, as Mr.  
Holden says he did, what a head work he must  
have had of it. It must have been "bobbing  
around" pretty well all the time. Only to  
look at him—high on five hundred dodges!—  
Raleigh Standard.

No bullet will ever hit such a head.

"THE MEROBY."—We have received the  
Prospectus of a new weekly Paper to be pub-  
lished in this city, by W. B. Smith, Esq.,  
Editor and Proprietor. The prospectus says  
it will be published in quarto form of eight  
pages, and will be gotten up in the very best  
manner; to be handsomely illustrated, and  
devoted to a dignified standard of Polite  
Southern Literature. Terms—\$10 for six  
months. We wish the enterprising publisher  
and editor the most abundant success.

In our paper of March 23rd, we set forth in  
an article under the title—"What North Car-  
olina will do—Quiet and Harmony"—our own  
views of that plan of accord and concurrence,  
which would enable the differing political  
elements of the State who might wish to  
unite on some common basis of loyalty, in the  
present Governor's election, and in the  
election of members of the Legislature.

A very dangerous faction had arisen in the  
party calling itself Conservative, under the  
lead of Mr. Holden, whose purposes were  
agitation, excitement, denunciation of the  
Government, and a Convention, with a view  
to enter upon some separate State actions that  
would sever North Carolina from the Confed-  
eracy, and disgrace and ruin the State and her  
people. Besides this unwise and criminal  
purpose, Mr. Holden, the leader, had another  
of his own, and that was the elevation of  
Mr. Holden, or at least the manufacture for  
him of the additional notoriety of being,  
besides a self-made man, a self-made candi-  
diate.

It is said that "in the very hour and instant  
of a man's birth, one exactly similar to him-  
self in spirit and form, is born also; and that  
some hidden and mysterious sympathy exists  
between the substantial and this ideal *fac-  
simile*." Doubting very much the philosophy  
of this doctrine, we can readily understand the  
moral that underlies it. There are some  
men who manage through life to establish and  
maintain (to the entire exclusion of the outside  
world) the fondest and closest relations with  
some shadow of themselves, which they foster  
and cherish as the highest of earthly obliga-  
tions. As a politician, Mr. Holden is emi-  
nently one of this class; and we verily believe  
there has never been a moment of his political  
life when that other Mr. Holden was absent  
from his view. It was in this spirit of self-  
worship, that the self-made man became the  
self-made candidate. Mr. Holden, and his  
faction raised no political issues with Gov.  
Vance; they "did not separate politically or  
personally"—all remained conservative—but  
Mr. Holden wanted to be Governor, and so  
"put up" himself.

In this condition of things, the "Confed-  
erates, or, as they are called, 'destructives,'  
have a choice to make. They have no candi-  
diate; they have no wish to run one; they  
would prefer, if Mr. Holden would have al-  
lowed it, to let Gov. Vance be re-elected, and  
abide conservative rule for two years longer—  
vindicative and proscriptive as it was—in the  
hope that Gov. Vance would prove "honest  
and patriotic," as Mr. Holden said he was.  
But they were not allowed; and now having  
a choice to make, they prefer to vote for  
Gov. Vance, because he is loyal, true, and  
unburdened with the praises of the yankee,  
and the distrust of our own people.

This Confederate party to-day holds the  
fate of the State—so far as the elections are  
concerned—in its own hand; for Gov. Vance  
will not beat Mr. Holden more than thirty or  
thirty-five thousand. The thirty thousand  
loyal men who voted for Col. Johnston, two  
years ago, together with the many who  
voted for Col. Vance on personal grounds,  
and because he was a soldier, can elect Gov.  
Vance, or defeat him. Indeed, strengthened  
as it already is, and will be, by the success  
that will attend this spring campaign, the  
Confederate party might elect a candidate of  
its own. Scales, Hoke, Clingman, Ransom,  
Gordon, Cox, Grimes, Avery, Garrett, and  
many others of the army, or many a civilian  
who might be named, could readily muster the  
whole strength. But we have carefully en-  
deavored to find out the wish and intention;  
and there seems to be but one desire, and  
that is to avoid political agitation, and to  
secure in the office of Governor and in the  
members of the Legislature, "true men,  
faithful men, fearless men—men who are for  
the independence of the Confederacy, at what-  
ever cost." This seems to us to be the uni-  
versal voice of loyalty from every quarter.

There can then be no difficulty in harmoni-  
zing this common desire into a common ac-  
tion. This will be done by the avoidance of  
extraneous questions, and the confinement of  
meetings and assemblies of the public, actions  
to the re-nomination of Gov. Vance, and the  
selection of fit and proper candidates to rep-  
resent this loyal sentiment of the State.

It will be a grave error—or even worse, a fault,  
if a multiplicity of candidates in any of the  
counties secures the election of Mr. Holden's as-  
sociates. In no other way can any such be el-  
ected. Unless men prefer themselves to the cause,  
and thus get in the way, there will not be in  
the next Legislature a single man who will  
avow himself as one of Mr. Holden's. The  
efforts, of this faction of agitators and their  
chief, the self-made, to fix Gov. Vance as a  
"destructive," is too stale—worn out. There  
is not an old shoe on the most bare-foot boy  
of the Rapidan, that has not more sole to it than  
this "flat and unprofitable trick." It was one  
of Mr. Holden's earliest inventions—this "fix-  
ing" of a political adversary; and it is now  
the last straw. Let him cling to it. It's only  
a straw. It would not bear the weight of a  
feather—much less a load of political sin.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—In answer to our  
Correspondent at Macon Depot, relative to the  
"Invalid Corps," we would state that we pub-  
lished an article a short time since, in which  
we stated that the Act passed by Congress  
does apply to those who were disabled and  
discharged previous to the passage of the act.

We appreciate the extracts from private  
letters written by soldiers to their friends at  
home, which are frequently sent to us for pub-  
lication; but when they allude to private in-  
dividuals disparagingly, we can see no good  
that will grow out of parading them before  
the public.

## Open Voting.

The soldiers could not have hit upon a more  
manly expedient for ascertaining individual  
loyalty, and at the same time exhibiting their  
own soldierly independence, than the one they  
have determined on; to wit, to vote openly.  
Their significant "come out of that fold up,"  
will fetch many a secret sympathizer unto agita-  
tion, who won't stand the public exposure.

Let them vote this way on the 2nd Thursday  
of April, and Mr. Leach will have the satisfac-  
tion of knowing what soldiers think of the late  
Lt. Colonel of the 21st, Kirkland's regiment.

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A SCRAP FROM HISTORY.—We find the fol-  
lowing in the *Albany Argus*:

"Just after Pope's rout in front of Wash-  
ington, the high officers of the government  
were seized with such a panic that they gave  
up all hope of saving the capital. In the  
wild despair of the moment, orders were ac-  
cordingly given to blow up and destroy the Wash-  
ington Arsenal, and the millions upon millions  
of dollars' worth of war material, to prevent  
them from falling into the hands of the  
rebels."

The Rochester *Daily Union*, which pub-  
lishes the above, claims to have such author-  
ity for the statement as to preclude all doubts  
of its correctness, and to warrant the pre-  
sumption that it will not be disputed by the  
only parties who are competent to give tes-  
timony on the subject, to wit: the high offi-  
cials of the government.

We have no doubt of its truth or that it  
could be established by evidence. If the com-  
mittees of Congress had not proved to be  
combinations for the suppression of truth, the  
testimony could readily be brought before  
them.

The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal  
Church, in the Confederate States, will hold  
their annual meeting in Montgomery, on the  
4th of May. Bishops Andrew, Pierce, Paine  
and Early are expected to be present. Bishops  
Soule and Kavanaugh are within the enemy's  
line, and though thoroughly loyal to the South,  
will be unable to attend. They are engaged  
in caring for the church (what remains of it)  
in the border States. At the same time and  
place, the Missionary Board and the Publish-  
ing Committee will hold their annual meeting.  
These meetings for consultation and business  
need to be held in Nashville. A delegate  
from each of the annual Conferences will meet,  
in joint session, with the Bishops and Board,  
for advice and suggestion as to the interests of  
Southern Methodism. This Council is a  
temporary expedient in lieu of the General  
Conference—a quorum of which cannot now  
be got together on account of the state of the  
country on the border and in the trans-Missis-  
sippi region, which embraces a large portion  
of the membership.

EXEMPTIONS FROM TAXATION.—People say  
that the new Confederate tax law is hard to  
understand, and we suppose it is, considering  
the number of explanations called for. Some  
persons are under the impression that an ex-  
emption of a certain amount, will be allowed  
for each head of a family, minor child, soldier,  
&c., without regard to the amount of property  
they own. But they are mistaken, and if  
they will look at the law it will be seen that  
the exemption does not apply to any person  
whose property, exclusive of household furni-  
ture, shall be assessed at a value exceeding  
one thousand dollars. In other words, the  
person who owns more than one thousand  
dollars' worth of property (not counting the  
value of his furniture) is not entitled to any  
exemption at all.

BISHOP ATKINSON'S APPOINTMENTS.—  
SPRING VISITATION OF 1864.—Bishop Atkin-  
son is compelled by sickness to recall his  
Appointments already issued, and to substitute  
the following, viz:  
Wilmington, April 17th; Rockfish, April  
20th; Fayetteville, April 21st; St. Marks,  
Deep River, April 23rd; Pittsburgh, April  
24th; Chapel Hill, April 26th; Graham,  
April 28th; Hillsboro, April 29th; Raleigh,  
May 1st; Goldsboro, May 3rd; Kinston, May  
4th; Wilson, May 6th; Tarboro, May 8th;  
Scotland Neck, May 10th; Halifax, May 12th;  
Weidman, May 13th; Gaston, May 15th;  
Henderson, May 17th.

DEATH OF MRS. BOONE OF CHINA.—The  
*Church Journal* says: "No friend of foreign  
missions will read without deep grief the an-  
nouncement that the accomplished and de-  
voted wife of John Boone, whose health has  
for a long time been gradually failing, de-  
parted this life at Suzer, on her way home to  
this country, and was there buried, the service  
of the church being read over her remains by  
the English Consul."

FACTS FOR THE TIMES.—Many persons are  
under misapprehension or in uncertainty as  
to several points connected with the currency,  
taxes, claims upon the Government, &c., and  
the following answers to questions which have  
been addressed to us may prove generally ac-  
ceptable.

All tax due to the Government, whether  
they are the taxes of 1863, but not yet paid, or  
the taxes assessed under the law of 1864, may  
be paid in four per cent. bonds, or in the cer-  
tificates on which the four per cent. bonds are  
to issue. Where a certificate is greater in  
amount than the tax proposed to be paid with  
it, the collector will issue a new certificate for  
the excess of the tax-payer making up all fractional  
parts of a hundred dollars in money.

Five dollar notes will be received in pay-  
ment of taxes of all kinds, or may be funded  
at par on four per cent. bonds, until the first  
of July next; at which time they also will  
be taxed one third.

Nothing can be done with notes for a hun-  
dred dollars but to fund them in four per  
cent. bonds at two-thirds of their face, and  
subject also to a tax of ten dollars per month  
on each, from the first of April.

Notes under five dollars are subject to no  
tax or limitation, but remain current as here-  
tofore at their full amount.

Notes of ten dollars, twenty dollars and fifty  
dollars may be paid in taxes or funded in  
four per cent. bonds, or exchanged for new notes  
at two-thirds of their value—until the first of  
January next, at which time all then outstanding  
will be worthless.

The idea has gained considerable circulation  
that claims against the Treasury, existing prior  
to the first of April, would be paid in the re-  
duced currency; unless presented and col-  
lected before the 1st of April. This is an  
error. It is only true of such claims as had  
been adjusted and a warrant or draft issued for  
the payment. The settlement had then become  
a part of the public records, and the holder  
of such draft was of the nature of a depositor  
in the Treasury, and if he failed to draw his  
money, it became liable to the tax on the 1st  
of April. But claims unsettled, or for which  
payment had not been tendered, will follow the  
usual rule of being paid in currency par at the  
time of payment.

[Richmond Sentinel.]

[From the N. Y. Herald.]

## The Spring Campaign.

ITS IMPORTANCE AND PROSPECTS—GENERAL  
GRANT ON THE ROAD TO RICHMOND—WHAT  
IS BEFORE US.

We are on the verge of a decisive campaign  
—a campaign which will bring the rebellion  
to an end or cover with disgrace and confusion  
the Government and the loyal States. As the  
opposing armies now stand, all the advantages  
of numbers, facilities, position and strength  
appear to be so overwhelming on the side of  
the Union, that hardly the shadow of doubt  
disturbs the public anticipations of complete  
success. From all the indications, however,  
on the other side, it is apparent that the rebels  
in this campaign will fight with the energy  
of despair. It is their last chance. All their  
forces now estimated at three hundred thou-  
sand men in the field—and all their resources  
are staked upon the coming struggle. They  
feel and confess that their situation is desper-  
ate; but on every side they are preparing  
for a terrible resistance.

In this view it is a matter of universal  
congratulation that, under the pressure of pub-  
lic opinion, Congress has spoken to the Presi-  
dent, and that the President, in compliance  
with the voice of Congress, has placed all the  
armies of the Union under the direction of  
General Grant. The country is satisfied that  
this proceeding is eminently wise and well-  
timed, and that it cannot possibly fail to se-  
cure the most glorious results. The steps  
already taken by General Grant in the work  
of re-organizing our armies for active fight-  
ing, are very encouraging. He puts his most  
thoroughly tried and approved officers in the  
most important positions, beginning with the  
sagacious and intrepid Sherman, as his suc-  
cessor in the command of the great department  
which stretches from East Tennessee to the  
Mississippi in one direction, and to the Gulf  
in the other. But the announcement which  
we welcome with the highest satisfaction is that  
which locates the headquarters of General  
Grant with the army of the Potomac. With  
that heroic army we have had, from the be-  
ginning, the most inviting opportunities  
offered for a decisive blow to the Davis  
Confederacy; but the mismanagement of that  
army, thus far, has been our only serious draw-  
back. Now we may confidently look for  
better things than costly defeats in blood and  
treasure, foolish raids, unprofitable marches  
and counter-marches, and unproductive victories.

We dare say that General Grant has dis-  
covered that Richmond is the head of the re-  
bellion, and that a *decisive blow upon the head*  
is the *readiest way to finish it*. We suspect that he  
has found out that the army of the Potomac  
is able and ready for the work before it, and that  
the work will soon be entered upon and  
thoroughly accomplished. We cannot imagine  
that he comes to sit down on the Rapid Run  
and quietly wait for the rebels to come, until all  
the odds and ends of the rebel armies, from Rich-  
mond to South Carolina, are concentrated  
against him. In any event, however, we are  
called upon to prepare for a campaign, East  
and West, which in all human probability will  
be marked by the most obstinately contested  
and the most sanguinary battles of the war.

In this view, and considering the momentous  
consequences involved in the struggle before us,  
it becomes the duty of the administration, of  
Congress, of the State authorities of the loyal  
States, and of their people, without distinction  
of party, to devote themselves now to the pa-  
ramount business of the war, and to the exclusion  
of party politics and Presidential squabbling,  
at least till the 7th of June.

We must succumb in this impending military  
campaign, or this war for the Union may  
prove a disgraceful and ruinous failure. We  
cannot safely go beyond another year, with a  
yearly expenditure of eight or nine hundred  
millions of money, and an annual drain from  
the industrial interests of the country of half  
million or more of its most vigorous men.  
We must bring the rebellion to its end *this*  
*coming summer, or the disintegration of the*  
*people of the loyal States may ripen into*  
*scenes of violence, discord and anarchy*, and  
our Presidential election of November next  
may be the end of the chapter.

We would appeal, then, to the party jour-  
nals and the party politicians of the loyal  
States, to suspend the agitation of the Presi-  
dential question until we shall have gained a  
solid foundation to stand upon. In the inter-  
val to June we hope to be able to see our way  
clearly through the roiled columns of Jeff.  
Davis; but in the meantime nothing is cer-  
tain, except that the issue of the Presidential  
contest, if not of the war, remains to be de-  
termined by the issue of the approaching  
campaign against the rebellion.

[For The Confederate.]

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I yesterday had the  
pleasure of hearing the discussion between  
Messrs. Foster, Leach and Ramsey—the three  
candidates for Congressional honors in this,  
the 7th district. All of them acquitted them-  
selves well, and everything passed off quietly.  
I presume, by the manner in which they were  
greeted, that their various friends were well  
satisfied with their respective efforts. They  
all professed to be very strong peace men,  
and promised to do all they could to bring about  
an honorable peace at as early a day as prac-  
ticable. In fact, I could see but little differ-  
ence between them, except that Messrs. Ram-  
sey and Foster endorsed the administration of  
Gov. Vance, and expressed themselves very  
strongly in favor of his re-election, and Mr.  
Leach did not.

The probabilities are, as far as I can learn,  
that as matters now stand, with three candi-  
dates in the field, Mr. Leach will be elected  
by a large majority. The friends of Mr.  
Leach consider him a much stronger man  
than Captain Ramsey, and if the contest was  
narrowed down to the two candidates, Messrs.  
Leach and Foster, they believe that Foster  
would be elected; which is very probable, as  
Mr. Foster is quite a popular man, and very  
generally known in the district. Hopes are  
entertained that the friends of Captain Ram-  
sey may use their influence in trying to get  
him to withdraw, and thereby give Mr. Fos-  
ter a fair chance in the race with his com-  
petitor, Mr. Leach.

Yours, &c.

JUSTICE.

Thomasville, April 6, 1864.

LATEST NEWS FROM THE NORTH.—The Bal-  
timore *American*, of the 2d instant, has been  
received, and contains the following items of  
news:

The Red river expedition had gone up as  
far as Natchitoches, sixty miles above Alex-  
andria, and had captured four hundred  
prisoners, four cannons, etc.

Ten brigadier-generals have been ordered  
to report to General Sherman for duty.

The Baltimore *American* says that Burn-  
side's expedition, now sitting out at Annapolis,  
will not go South, but "will bear an intimate  
relation to the operations of the Army of the  
Potomac."

The New York *Herald* says that there are  
twenty steamers running between Nassau and  
Wilmington.

At two o'clock, on the 1st, gold in New  
York was 166 1/2. The closing quotation in  
Baltimore, same day, was 168.

## TELEGRAPHIC.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to act of Congress in the year  
1863, by J. S. THOMPSON, in the Clerk's office  
of the District Court of the Confederate States  
for the Northern District of Georgia.

From Gen. Lee's Army.

ORANGE, C. H., April 7.

Gen. Lee has issued a General Order direct-  
ing the observance of to-morrow as a day of fasting,  
humiliation and prayer, and directing that due  
preparation be made by all the departments of  
the army, to anticipate the wants of the several  
commands in such a manner as to avoid all mili-  
tary duties not absolutely necessary. The chap-  
lains are desired to hold Divine service in the  
regiments and brigades, and the officers and men  
requested to attend.

It is reported that a scouting party of the en-  
emy appeared on the heights at Stafford, opposite  
Fredericksburg, yesterday. Great activity is vis-  
ible in the Yankee camps.

Arrival of Flag of Truce Steamer.

RICHMOND, April 7.

The Flag of Truce steamer Express, arrived at  
City Point this afternoon, with four officers.  
Also fifteen tons of freight for the Yankee prison-  
ers. The officers are Col. Fry, Capt. Buckner,  
and Wilson, and Lieut. Breckenridge. Nothing  
is said in the dispatch as to the number of privates  
returned. Papers by this arrival will be brought  
up to-morrow. Not one word of news to-day  
from any quarter.

NO EXCUSE FOR STARVING.—If any one  
has ever seriously entertained the idea that  
there was any danger of starving on account  
of the scarcity of grain, just let him look at  
the heaps of corn and wheat being received  
by the Tithe Collectors, and let him remember  
that this is only one-tenth of the amount  
raised. In this Congressional District, com-  
posed of the counties of Mecklenburg, Rowan,  
Cabarrus, Union, Lincoln, Gaston, Catawba  
and Cleveland, we think the returns will  
prove that at least five hundred thousand  
bushels of wheat and one million bushels of  
corn were raised the past year. We expect  
to justify this statement, by official figures  
showing the number of bushels received as  
one-tenth by the Tithe Collectors.

Some curiosity is felt to know what has  
become of the remaining nine-tenths, inasmuch  
as nine out of ten men say that they have not  
enough to supply their own wants, and in  
view of the fact that but little has been sold  
or shipped. If wheat and the rats and mice  
could have devoured the greater portion of it?  
If so, the rats and mice are in mighty  
good order, and people may have to commence  
eating them, for two purposes, viz: to satisfy  
the pinches of a hungry stomach, and to  
prevent a scarcity of bread hereafter. So,  
upon the whole, there is "no excuse for starv-  
ing," and the yankees might as well abandon  
all hope of starving us into submission.

We have heretofore indulged in some pretty  
severe denunciations of the speculators, but  
we expect we shall have to turn upon the rats  
now, if they have caused corn to advance to  
\$15 and \$20 per bushel and flour to \$170 per  
barrel.—Charlotte Democrat.

[For The Confederate.]

KILLIAN'S MILLS, Catawba county, N. C.  
MESSRS. EDITORS:—While I see such a gen-  
eral expression of sentiment in the *Confederate*  
on the political aspect of the country, will you  
permit me through your paper to express what  
I believe to be the feelings of almost the whole  
of the people of my acquaintance in this and  
adjoining counties, upon the subject of the  
Governor's election. That the feelings of the  
people have undergone a great change in the  
last four or five weeks, is certain. I have been  
mixing with the people all through this country,  
and I do not know of one man that I think will  
vote for Holden, unless a very great change  
should be effected in the minds of the people.  
I think I know of some few men that have been  
disaffected to the government all the time, that  
would, if not ashamed, vote for Holden; they  
have been reading his paper and were once  
great Holden men, yet public sentiment has  
so changed, they know they would be forced  
out of society. It was through the Holden in-  
fluence that the election of the Hon. Wm.  
Lander to Congress was defeated; it was through  
the Holden influence that the mountains last  
summer were filled with deserters; indeed  
wherever Holden's paper has been taken, the  
people have been more or less disaffected.  
I have been a public man for twenty years,  
yet not a politician, and this is the first time  
that I ever wrote anything on the subject; and  
this is only to give you what I conceive to be  
the general feeling of the people. L. M. B.

[For The Confederate.]

SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.  
There are three candidates, Foster, Ramsey  
and Leach. The two first for the Confederacy,  
and the latter for himself. If Foster and  
Ramsey consent between themselves that we  
should vote for the strongest man, I am sure  
Foster is the man. The people had settled  
on Foster in this part of the district, before  
they heard Ramsey was a candidate. Leach  
is opposed to Vance and Holden, but for him-  
self. Indeed he may be said to be a Leach  
man. DAVIDSON.

LEXINGTON, N. C.

DEFENCE OF THE MISSISSIPPI.—Senator  
Mitchell, Confederate States Senator from  
Alabama, left Selma, Ala., recently, for Gen.  
Palm's headquarters. This gentleman, the  
Selma Dispatch learns, is direct from Rich-  
mond, charged by the government with im-  
portant special business relating to the Trans-  
Mississippi Department. He is now engaged,  
we understand, in the careful preparation of a  
plan for the defence of the Mississippi river,  
and the protection of our valuable interests in  
that vicinity, which will doubtless be devel-  
oped and acted upon during the approaching  
session of Congress.

THE WAR NEWS.—Letters of a recent date  
from the Valley of Virginia, make no mention  
whatsoever of any military movements in that  
department. All is quiet along General Lee's  
lines. The recent display on GRANT's front is  
supposed to be nothing more than the usual  
fanfare of the Yankees on a change of  
commanders.

The enemy, between two thousand and twen-  
ty-five hundred strong, are quietly rendezvous-  
ing at Palatka, in Florida. No fortifications  
have been erected there.

PADUCAH.—A gentleman who was for a  
time a prisoner at Paducah, says that it is  
the depots of supplies for all the South-  
western armies. A year ago the value of  
grain and other supplies there was estimated  
at fifteen millions of dollars. Since that time  
the amount is said to have increased to some  
twenty millions. Forrest burned all these  
store-houses and military headquarters.

The Confederate prisoners at Gallatin, Ten-  
nessee, are represented to undergo the most  
barbarous treatment, many of them being put  
in chains and subjected to every indignity  
that unfeeling malice can invent. Some sixty-odd  
at Gallatin have been most unjustly assas-  
inated, including seven of Morgan's command.

STATE TAXES.—In compliance with the  
requirements of the revenue law of North  
Carolina, each person liable to a State tax  
should render a list of his taxable to the  
Magistrates of his district appointed to receive  
the same, during the last twenty working days  
of this month, and thereby, save double tax.  
We make this notice for the benefit of many  
who in these days of tax-paying are liable to  
confound the State tax with the Confederate  
tax.

## MARRIED.

In Tarboro, by the Rev. Mr. Owens, Lt. Col.  
Wm. Garretts, Lewis, 2nd regiment N. C.  
T., to Miss MITCHELL, daughter of J. J. R.  
Pender, Esq.

## DIED.

At Johnson's Island, 24th February, 1864, from  
an injury received by the cars running off the  
track while he was passing freighted from  
Camp Chase to Sandusky, Ohio, Captain MAR-  
SHALL N. COX, of Nashville, Tennessee.  
The deceased was born in Halifax county, N.  
C., and removed, at an early age, to Tennessee.  
At the commencement of our troubles he warmly  
espoused the cause of the South, and entered the  
service as a 1st Lieutenant of Infantry, in Col.  
Battle's regiment, and participated with it in the  
hard fought battles of Fishing Creek and Shiloh.  
Upon the re-organization of the regiment he  
was unanimously elected to a Captaincy, but de-  
clined the position and raised a cavalry company,  
which he united with Morgan's command, and ac-  
companied that gallant leader in many of his  
daring adventures, and was finally captured dur-  
ing the raid into Ohio last fall, from which  
time until his decease he has been a prisoner of  
war. Bold and fearless in his conduct, his gen-  
erous and many virtues won him a host of friends